

(a) The value of the property as shown in the recipient's accounting records (*i.e.*, purchase price less accumulated depreciation); or

(b) The current fair market value. You may accept the use of any reasonable basis for determining the fair market value of the property. If there is a justification to do so, you may accept the current fair market value even if it exceeds the value in the recipient's records.

§ 37.540 May I accept fully depreciated real property or equipment as cost sharing?

You should limit the value of any contribution of a fully depreciated asset to a reasonable use charge. In determining what is reasonable, you must consider:

- (a) The original cost of the asset;
- (b) Its estimated remaining useful life at the time of your negotiations;
- (c) The effect of any increased maintenance charges or decreased performance due to age; and
- (d) The amount of depreciation that the participant previously charged to Federal awards.

§ 37.545 May I accept costs of prior research as cost sharing?

No, you may not count any participant's costs of prior research as a cost sharing contribution. Only the additional resources that the recipient will provide to carry out the current project (which may include pre-award costs for the current project, as described in § 37.830) are to be counted.

§ 37.550 May I accept intellectual property as cost sharing?

(a) In most instances, you should not count costs of patents and other intellectual property (*e.g.*, copyrighted material, including software) as cost sharing, because:

- (1) It is difficult to assign values to these intangible contributions;
- (2) Their value usually is a manifestation of prior research costs, which are not allowed as cost share under § 37.545; and
- (3) Contributions of intellectual property rights generally do not represent the same cost of lost opportunity to a recipient as contributions of cash or

tangible assets. The purpose of cost share is to ensure that the recipient incurs real risk that gives it a vested interest in the project's success.

(b) You may include costs associated with intellectual property if the costs are based on sound estimates of market value of the contribution. For example, a for-profit firm may offer the use of commercially available software for which there is an established license fee for use of the product. The costs of the development of the software would not be a reasonable basis for valuing its use.

§ 37.555 How do I value a recipient's other contributions?

For types of participant contributions other than those addressed in §§ 37.535 through 37.550, the general rule is that you are to value each contribution consistently with the cost principles or standards in § 37.625 and § 37.635 that apply to the participant making the contribution. When valuing services and property donated by parties other than the participants, you may use as guidance the provisions of 32 CFR 34.13(b)(2) through (5).

FIXED-SUPPORT OR EXPENDITURE-BASED APPROACH

§ 37.560 Must I be able to estimate project expenditures precisely in order to justify use of a fixed-support TIA?

(a) To use a fixed-support TIA, rather than an expenditure-based TIA, you must have confidence in your estimate of the expenditures required to achieve well-defined outcomes. Therefore, you must work carefully with program officials to select outcomes that, when the recipient achieves them, are reliable indicators of the amount of effort the recipient expended. However, your estimate of the required expenditures need not be a precise dollar amount, as illustrated by the example in paragraph (b) of this section, if:

- (1) The recipient is contributing a substantial share of the costs of achieving the outcomes, which must meet the criteria in § 37.305(a); and
- (2) You are confident that the costs of achieving the outcomes will be at least a minimum amount that you can specify and the recipient is willing to